90 E. 12th St.,

New York, May 25, 1865.

My Dear Garrison,

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After putting last week's Standard to press, I went to Longwood and spent Sunday and Monday with Mary Anne, who has been there since the 13th inst. When I got home, Tuesday evening, I found a pile of letters awaiting me, written by dear friends in view of my retirement from the Standard. On Wednesday I went to ~~the~~ A. S. Office, to see what ~~might have~~ had come for me there. I learned that a letter from you had been accidentally opened by Mr. Smalley, and then unfortunately mislaid by Mr. Leonard, the clerk, who

The Longwood meeting opens on Thursday morning, June 8th. You must be in New York therefore on Wednesday morning, the 7th, in time for the 10 o'clock train to Philadelphia!

has not yet found it, though he hopes to do so. I am very greatly disappointed, for, of all the men in the world, you are the one from whom I am most anxious to hear. I write now, however, in ignorance of what your letter contained, lest you should be expecting an answer and think me neglectful.

Thus far, so far as I know, or can learn, the testimony of my friends in regard to my valedictory is unanimous. They express entire satisfaction with it. This verdict, of course, gives me great pleasure. Mr. Quincy is especially unqualified in his approbation, and so is Miller McKim. Tilton tried to dissuade me from printing it — quite naturally, perhaps, for he does not understand and therefore cannot appreciate the situation. He would have had me retire without a word upon the questions that divided the Society; and I would gladly have followed his advice if it had not seemed clear to me that it was due alike to my own self-respect and to my obligations to others to say what I did.

The Standard for this week is out, under the superintendence of that distinguished (?) Garrisonian Abolitionist, G. W. Smalley! The Salutatory was evidently written or inspired by Phillips; at least it is an ~~[illegible]~~ echo of his late speeches. You will observe that there is not anywhere in the paper the least allusion to me, or to anything that I said last week. They display their shrewdness in this; for where nothing *can* be said to any effect, it is certainly wise to say nothing. Perhaps Pillsbury, who, I understand, has been detained in Boston by illness, will have something to say when he takes the chair. About that, however, I give myself no concern.

You were silent last week about the matters that divided the Society, but I presume you will have something to say ~~next~~ this week, or at some future time, as the proceedings of the annual meeting appear in your columns. I hope you will not overlook Phillips's attack upon the Stand-